

MIS

The vigilance of those who preface over these charities is so exemplary, that persons disposed to do good can entertain no suspicions of the misapplication of their bounty. *Atterbury.*
It is our duty to be provident for the future, and wisely to guard against whatever may lead us into misapplications of it. *Roger's Sermons.*

To MISAPPLY. *v. a.* [*mis* and *apply*.] To apply to wrong purposes.

Virtue itself turns vice, being misapplied,
And vice sometime by action's dignified. *Shakespeare.*
The holy treasure was to be reserved, and issued for holy uses, and not misapplied to any other ends. *Howell.*
He that knows, that whiteness is the name of that colour he has observed in snow, will not misapply that word as long as he retains that idea. *Locke.*

To MISAPPREHEND. *v. a.* [*mis* and *apprehend*.] Not to understand rightly.

That your reasonings may lose none of their force by my misapprehending or misrepresenting them, I shall give the reader your arguments. *Locke.*

MISAPPREHENSION. *n. f.* [*mis* and *apprehension*.] Mistake; not right apprehension.

It is a good degree of knowledge to be acquainted with the causes of our ignorance: and what we have to say under this head, will equally concern our misapprehensions and errors. *Glanville's Scip.*

To MISASCRIBE. *v. a.* [*mis* and *ascribe*.] To ascribe falsely.

That may be misascribed to art which is the bare production of nature. *Boyle.*

To MISASSIGN. *v. a.* [*mis* and *assign*.] To assign erroneously.

We have not misassigned the cause of this phenomenon. *Boyle.*

To MISBECOME. *v. a.* [*mis* and *become*.] Not to become; to be unbecomely; not to suit.

Either she has a possibility in that which I think impossible, or else impossible loves need not misbecome me. *Sidney.*

What to the dauphin from England?
—Scorn and defiance, slight regard, contempt,
And any thing that may not misbecome *Shak. Henry V.*

The mighty fender. *Shak. Henry V.*
That boldness which lads get amongst their play-fellows, has such a mixture of rudeness and an ill-turn'd confidence, that those misbecoming and dissingenuous ways of shifting in the world must be unlearned to make way for better principles. *Locke.*

Portius, thou may'st rely upon my conduct;

Thy father will not act what misbecomes him. *Addison.*

MISBEGOTT. *adj.* [*begot* or *begotten* with *mis*.] Unlawfully MISBEGOTTEN. *adj.* or irregularly begotten.

Contaminated, base,

And misbegotten blood, I spill of thine. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

Your words have taken such pains, as if they labour'd

To bring man-slaughter into form, set quarrelling

Upon the head of valour; which, indeed,

Is valour misbegot, and came into the world

When sects and factions were but newly born. *Shakespeare.*

The misbegotten infant grows,

And, ripe for birth, distends with deadly throes

The swelling rind, with unavailing strife,

To leave the wooden womb, and pushes into life. *Dryden.*

To MISBEHAVE. *v. n.* [*mis* and *behave*.] To act ill or improperly.

MISBEHAVED. *adj.* [*mis* and *behaved*.] Untaught; ill-bred; uncivil.

Happiness courts thee in her best array;

But, like a misbehaved and fullen wench,

Thou pou'st it upon thy fortune and thy love. *Shakespeare.*

MISBEHAVIOUR. *n. f.* [*mis* and *behaviour*.] Ill conduct; bad practice.

The misbehaviour of particular persons does not at all affect their cause, since a man may act laudably in some respects, who does not so in others. *Addison's Freeholder.*

MISBELIEF. *n. f.* [*mis* and *belief*.] False religion; a wrong belief.

MISBELIEVER. *n. f.* [*mis* and *believer*.] One that holds a false religion, or believes wrongly.

Yes, if I drew it with a curs'd intent

To take a misbeliever to my bed, *Dryden's Don Sebastian.*

It must be so.

To MISCALULATE. *v. a.* [*mis* and *calculate*.] To reckon wrong.

After all the care I have taken, there may be, in such a multitude of passages, several misquoted, misinterpreted, and miscalculated. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

To MISCALL. *v. a.* [*mis* and *call*.] To name improperly.

My heart will sigh when I miscall it so. *Shak. Rich. II.*

The third act, which connects propositions and deduceth conclusions from them, the schools call discursive; and we shall not miscall it if we name it reason. *Glanville's Scip.*

What you miscall their folly is their care. *Dryden.*

MIS

MISCARRIAGE. *n. f.* [*mis* and *carriage*.]

1. Unhappy event of our undertaking; failure; ill conduct.

Resolutions of future reforming do not always satisfy justice, nor prevent vengeance for former miscarriages. *King Charles.*

When a counsellor, to save himself,

Would lay miscarriages upon his prince,

Exposing him to publick rage and hate,

O, 'tis an act as infamously base,

As should a common soldier fault behind,

And thrust his general in the front of war. *Dryd. Sp. Fr.*

If the neglect or abuse of the liberty he had, to examine

what would really make for his happiness, misleads him, the

miscarriages that follow on it must be imputed to his own

election. *Locke.*

A great part of that time which the inhabitants of the

mer earth had to spare, and whereof they made so ill use,

was now employed in digging and plowing; and the excess

of fertility which contributed so much to their miscarriages,

was retracted and cut off. *Woodward's Nat. Hist. p. ii.*

Your cures aloud you tell,

But wisely your miscarriages conceal. *Garth's Dispensary.*

How, alas! will he appear in that awful day, when even

the failings and miscarriages of the righteous shall not be con-

cealed, though the mercy of God be magnified in their par-

don. *Roger's Sermons.*

2. Abortion; act of bringing forth before the time.

There must be flying and death, as well as miscarriages

and abortions; for there died many women with child.

Grant's Bills of Mortality.

To MISCARRY. *v. n.* [*mis* and *carry*.]

1. To fail; not to have the intended event; not to succeed; to

be lost in an enterprise; not to reach the effect intended.

Have you not heard of Frederick, the great soldier, who

miscarried at sea? *Shakespeare's Measure for Measure.*

Our filter's man is certainly miscarried. *Shakespeare.*

Is it concluded he shall be protector?

—It is determin'd, not concluded yet:

But so it must be if the king miscarry. *Shakespeare. Rich. III.*

If you miscarry,

Your business of the world hath to an end,

And machination ceases. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*

Sweet Bassanio, my ships have all miscarried, my creditors

grow cruel, my estate is very low. *Shak. Merchant of Venice.*

I could mention some projects which I have brought to

maturity, and others which have miscarried. *Addison's Guard.*

No wonder that this expedient should so often miscarry,

which requires so much art and genius to arrive at any per-

fection in it. *Swift's Miscel.*

2. To have an abortion.

Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts. *Hos. ix. 14.*

So many politic conceptions so elaborately formed and

wrought, and grown at length ripe for a delivery, do yet, in the

issue, miscarry and prove abortive. *South's Sermons.*

His wife miscarried; but the abortion proved a female ba-

tus. *Pope and Arbuthnot's Miscel. Sat.*

You have proved yourself more tender of another's em-

brions, than the fondest mothers are of their own; for you

have preserved every thing that I miscarried of. *Pope.*

MISCELLANEOUS. *n. f.* [*miscellaneous*, Lat.] This is corrupted into

miscellin or mottlin. Mixed corn: as, wheat and rye.

It is thought to be of use to make some miscellane in corn;

as if you sow a few beans with wheat, your wheat will be

the better. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. N^o. 670.*

MISCELLANEOUS. *adj.* [*miscellaneous*, Latin.] Mingled; com-

posed of various kinds.

Being miscellaneous in many things, he is to be received

with suspicion; for such as amass all relations must err in

some, and without offence be unbeliev'd in many. *Brown.*

And what the people but a herd confus'd,

A miscellaneous rabble, who extol

Things vulgar, and well weigh'd farce worth the praise.

Milton's Par. Reg. b. ii.

MISCELLANEOUSNESS. *n. f.* [*miscellaneous*.] Composition

of various kinds.

MISCELLANY. *adj.* [*miscellaneous*, Latin.] Mixed of various

kinds.

The power of Spain consisteth in a veteran army, com-

posed of miscellany forces of all nations. *Bacon.*

MISCELLANY. *n. f.* A mass formed out of various kinds.

I must acquit myself of the presumption of having lent my

name to recommend any miscellanies or works of other men.

Pope.

When they have join'd their pericranies,

Out skips a book of miscellanies. *Swift.*

To MISCAST. *v. a.* [*mis* and *cast*.] To take a wrong account

of.

Men miscast their days; for in their age they deduce the

account not from the day of their birth, but the year of our

Lord wherein they were born. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

MISCHANCE.

MIS

MISCHANCE. *n. f.* [*mis* and *chance*.] Ill luck; ill fortune;

misfortune; mishap.

The lady Cecropia sent him to excuse the mischance of her

beasts ranging in that dangerous fort. *Sidney, b. i.*

Extreme dealing had driven her to put herself with a great

lady, by which occasion she had stumbled upon such mischances

as were little for the honour of her family. *Sidney, b. ii.*

View these letters, full of bad mischance.

France is revolted. *Shakespeare. Henry VI. p. i.*

Sleep rock thy brain,

And never come mischance between us twain. *Shakespeare.*

Nothing can be a reasonable ground of despising a man but

some fault chargeable upon him; and nothing can be a fault

that is not naturally in a man's power to prevent; otherwise,

it is a man's unhappiness, his mischance or calamity, but not

his fault. *South's Sermons.*

MISCHIEF. *n. f.* [*mis* and *chief*, old French.]

1. Harm; hurt; whatever is ill and injuriously done.

The law in that case punisheth the thought; for better is

a mischief than an inconvenience. *Spenser on Ireland.*

Come you murther ring minsters!

Wherever in your lightless substances

You wait on nature's mischief. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

Thy tongue devilish mischief. *Psalm li. 2.*

Was I the cause of mischief, or the man,

Whose lawless lust the fatal war began?

Come not then with mischief-making beauty,

To interpose between us, look not on him. *Rogers.*

2. Ill consequence; vexatious affair.

States call in foreigners to assist them against a common

enemy; but the mischief was, their allies would never allow

that the common enemy was subdued. *Swift.*

To MISCHIEF. *v. a.* [*from* the noun.] To hurt; to harm; to

injure.

If the greatest inward heat be not sweetened by meekness,

or not governed by prudence, can it bring to our souls any

benefit? rather it mischiefs them. *Spenser's Sermons.*

MISCHIEFMAKER. *n. f.* [*from* mischief and *make*.] One who

causes mischief.

MISCHIEVOUS. *adj.* [*from* mischief.]

1. Harmful; hurtful; destructive; noxious; pernicious; inju-

rious; wicked.

This false, wily, doubling disposition is intolerably mis-

chievous to society. *South's Sermons.*

I'm but a half-frain'd villain yet;

But mongrel mischievous. *Dryden.*

He had corrupted or deluded most of his servants, telling

them that their master was run mad; that he had disinheret-

ed his heir, and was going to settle his estate upon a parish-

boy; that if he did not look after their master he would do

some very mischievous thing. *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull.*

2. Spiteful; malicious.

MISCHIEVOUSLY. *adv.* [*from* mischief.] Noxiously; hurtfully;

wickedly.

Not was the cruel destiny content

To sweep at once her life and beauty too;

But like a harden'd felon took a pride

To work more mischievously flow,

And plunder'd first, and then destroy'd. *Dryden.*

MISCHIEVOUSNESS. *n. f.* [*from* mischief.] Hurtfulness; per-

niciousness; wickedness.

Compare the harmfulness, the tenderness, the modesty,

and the ingenious pliancy, which is in youth, with the

mischievousness, the slyness, the craft, the impudence, the

falsehood, and the confirmed obstinacy found in an aged, long-

practised sinner. *South's Sermons.*

MISCHIEF. *adj.* [*from* mischief, Latin.] Possible to be mingled.

Acid spirits are subtle liquors which come over in distilla-

tions, not inflammable, miscible with water. *Arbutnot.*

MISCITATION. *n. f.* [*mis* and *citation*.] Unfair or false quo-

tation.

Being charged with miscitation and unfair dealing, it was

requisite to say something; for honesty is a tender point.

Callier's View of the Stage.

To MISCTE. *v. a.* [*mis* and *cite*.] To quote wrong.

MISCLAIM. *n. f.* [*mis* and *claim*.] Mistaken claim.

Error, misclaim and forgetfulness, become suitors for some

remission of extreme rigour. *Bacon.*

MISCOMPUTATION. *n. f.* [*mis* and *computation*.] False reckoning.

It was a general misfortune and miscomputation of that time,

that the party had to good an opinion of their own reputa-

tion and interest. *Clarendon.*

To MISCONCEIVE. *v. a.* [*mis* and *conceive*.] To mis-judge;

to have a false notion of.

Ne let false whispers, breeding hidden fears,

Break gentle sleep with misconceived doubt. *Spenser.*

Our endeavour is not so much to overthrow them with

whom we contend, as to yield them just and reasonable causes

of those things, which, for want of due consideration here-

fore, they misconceived.